

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 37 remain active in this application. Claims 1, 17 and 28 have been amended in the response filed December 20, 2004, entry of which has been requested in the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination. No further amendment is made in this supplemental response. No new matter has been introduced into the application.

It is noted with appreciation that the Advisory Action mailed January 21, 2005, indicated that the ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been withdrawn. It is also noted with appreciation that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Ahlberg et al. has been withdrawn in regard to claims 13, 14, 21, 34 and 35 and the subject matter of those claims indicated to be allowable subject to the claims being rewritten in independent form. The Advisory Action also refers to Figures 10, 14, 15 and 23 in addition to Figure 20 in support of the rejection which has been maintained as to all other claims.

In response, those Figures and the descriptions thereof at column 22, line 57 to column 23, line 48, column 26, line 64, to column 27, line 20, column 27, lines 29 - 63 and column 18, lines 7 - 48, respectively, have been carefully considered and it is respectfully submitted that, whatever the Examiner intended to convey by the comments in the Advisory Action, **all of these passages are completely silent** in regard to the hierarchy of lists and their respective contents which are explicitly recited in all independent claims and which support the meritorious functions of the invention as pointed out in detail in each response filed in this application to date.

Specifically, each independent claim in the application recites 1.) a list of resources (e.g.

Figure 15) to which users may have access, if authorized, 2.) a list of access profiles (e.g. Figure 14) wherein each access profile contains at least one of the resources contained in the list of resources and which will generally be groups of resources, and 3.) a list of users (e.g. Figure 13) which includes, for each user, a security profile by which each user can be authenticated to the system and one or more access profiles contained in the list of access profiles. In other words, the invention provides a list of access profiles logically interposed between the list of users with its security profiles for respective users and the list of resources available through the system. This logical architecture and hierarchy of lists illustrated in Figure 1A, by providing an intermediate level list of access profiles (indicated by reference numeral 14 in Figure 1A) avoids the necessity of providing any reference to users in the list of resources (or the resources themselves) or in the list of access profiles or any reference to individual resources, *per se*, in the list of users which supports automatic updating of the lists and access authorizations from simple editing of either the list of resources or the list of users when either resources or users are added, deleted or substituted, provides convenience in adding or deleting authorizations or modification of a security profile for a given existing user (some features of which the Examiner has now found to be allowable) and single operation authentication of a user for all of the resources to which the user is provided with authorized access, including, as a perfecting feature of the invention, provision for resolution of the type (e.g. read only, read and write) of authorization granted for each resource.

This feature of the invention is recited in the independent claims as follows (emphasis added):

Claims 1 and 28:

"editing a list of resources,
"editing a list of access profiles, each
said access profile in *said list of access*
profiles containing a designation of at least
one of said resources listed in *said list of*
resources, and
"editing a list of users to add or
delete, for a user of *said list of users*, an
access profile designation for an access
profile containing *said designation of said*
at least one said resource, *said list of*
users including, for each listed user, a
security profile including a userID by which
the user can be authenticated for one or more
access profiles."

Claim 17:

"...said means for controlling access to said
resources including a *list of said resources*,
a *list of access profiles*, each access
profile in *said list of access profiles*
corresponding to at least one said resource
listed in *said list of resources*, and a *list*
of users containing security profile
information for authenticating a user and at
least one access profile information
associated with each said user, said at least
one access profile *corresponding to said at*
least one resource whereby said security
profile authenticates a user to said at least
one resource specified in a said access
profile information in said security profile
for said user..."

While Ahlberg et al. contains references to numerous
"profiles", no teaching (or suggestion) of any such

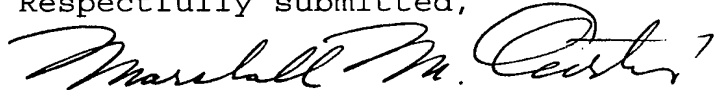
hierarchy of lists and the relationship of their respective contents is seen and the Figures now noted by the Examiner and the passages of Ahlberg et al. descriptive thereof appear to be devoid of any reference to such subject matter or anything of relevance thereto. Moreover, the passage descriptive of Figure 20 at column 16, lines 33 - 65, appears to indicate that particular applications (e.g. resources) are directly associated with users and their security profiles in the user profiles of Ahlberg et al.; directly contrary to the hierarchy of lists and the relationship of their contents recited in the claims (e.g. an list of profiles interposed between a list of users and a list of resources for associating users with resources would serve no useful purpose if that association is made directly in user profiles which would also preclude development of the advantages of the invention in facilitating changes of authorizations and authentication information provided by the invention). Accordingly, these further references to Ahlberg et al. do not mitigate the Examiner's failure to make a *prima facie* demonstration of anticipation (or obviousness of any claim while these features support many meritorious effects of the invention not realized by Ahlberg et al. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 - 12, 15 - 20, 22 - 33 and 36 - 37 remains in error and untenable and should be withdrawn in regard to these claims as it has been in regard to claims 13, 14, 21, 34 and 35 and such action is respectfully requested.

Since all rejections, objections and requirements contained in the outstanding official action have been fully answered and shown to be in error and/or inapplicable to the present claims, it is respectfully submitted that reconsideration is now in order under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b) and such reconsideration is respectfully requested. Upon

reconsideration, it is also respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is therefore respectfully requested.

A petition for a one-month extension of time has been made above. If any further extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of International Business Machines Corporation (E. Fishkill).

Respectfully submitted,



Marshall M. Curtis
Reg. No. 33,138

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P. C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, Virginia 20190

(703) 787-9400
Customer Number: 30743